

Application No.: 10/817,234
Amendment Date: August 16, 2005
Reply to Office Action: June 6, 2005
Page 5

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-9 and 11-19 are pending. Claims 10, 20 and 21 have been cancelled by this amendment. Claims 15-17 have been amended to correct for lack of proper antecedent basis. The Examiner indicated that claims 1-9 and 11-19 are allowable.

Claim Objections

Claims 15 and 16 have been amended to correct for the proper lack of antecedents.

In regards to claim 17, claim 17 is objected to because claim 17 is directed to an apparatus (spool) and is dependent on a method claim, claim 7. The Examiner stated that he believes "claim 17 should be dependent on claim 1, and therefore, claim 17 will be examined as if dependent from claim 1".

The Examiner is correct. Accordingly, claim 17 has been amended to depend from claim 1, as its base claim.

In regards to claims 21, claim 21 was objected to because claim 21 is directed to a method of making a spool and is dependent on an apparatus claim, claim 11.

Claim 20 has been cancelled by this amendment.

Claim Rejections

Claims 10, 20 and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant Admitted Prior Art (AAPA). Claims 10, 20 and 21 also stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,802,237 to Pulido.

Application No.: 10/817,234
Amendment Date: August 16, 2005
Reply to Office Action: June 6, 2005
Page 6

Although Applicant's disagree with the basis for this rejection, Applicants cancelled claims 10, 20 and 21 in order to expedite prosecution of this application towards issuance.

Conclusion

Based upon the above amendments, remarks, and papers of records, applicant believes the pending claims of the above-captioned application are in allowable form and patentable over the prior art of record. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Applicant believes that no extension of time is necessary to make this Reply timely. Should applicant be in error, applicant respectfully requests that the Office grant such time extension pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) as necessary to make this Reply timely, and hereby authorizes the Office to charge any necessary fee or surcharge with respect to said time extension to the deposit account of the undersigned firm of attorneys, Deposit Account 03-3325.

Please direct any questions or comments to Svetlana Z. Short at 607-974-0412.

Respectfully submitted,



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